



**CHANGE A LIGHT
CHANGE THE WORLD
ENERGY STAR®**

Products that earn the ENERGY STAR® prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.
www.energystar.gov

The Faith Community can help **ENERGY STAR® Change a Light, Change the World**

Campaign Overview

The ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World Campaign is a national call-to-action to encourage every individual to help change the world, one light — one energy-saving step — at a time. Going into its 7th year, the 1st Wednesday in October has now been designated as ENERGY STAR Change a Light Day and serves to rally Americans around this critical call-to-action. Hundreds of manufacturers, utilities, and retailers help promote the campaign locally and nationally throughout October and November by featuring ENERGY STAR qualified lighting in-store and educating customers.

At the campaign's heart is the ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge found at www.energystar.gov/changealight. The Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy, non-profit organizations, state governments, schools, community groups, and congregations have begun to promote the Pledge year-round. This on-line pledge is a simple step everyone can take to join a growing community committed to preserving energy resources and protecting our environment.

Pledges taken in 2005 -- according to EPA estimates -- will result in savings of **23 million kWh of energy**, and **more than 33 million lbs. of greenhouse gas emissions**.

Join the Movement!

Congregations, denominations and interfaith organizations wishing to participate in this campaign can access information and free materials from energystar.gov/joinCAL. From this site, organizations can also sign up to become a formal Pledge Driver and enter additional campaign plans to make their commitment known publicly by others. While many materials are already available on-line, organizations can join as Pledge Drivers and post campaign activities starting in **late May**, and the remainder of the materials will be available by **mid-June**.

Campaign Partners Can:

- Use this ready-made platform to inspire their audiences to save energy and prevent greenhouse gas emissions
- Bring the Pledge to their particular community and track progress online against their own pledge goal
- Access free templates, artwork, and ready-to-go materials to promote the call-to-action and your involvement
- Have their success featured on the energystar.gov Web site
- Earn an award for Excellence in ENERGY STAR Outreach, as part of an annual ceremony

What Participants Say About the 2006 Campaign:

(The quote below is an example. Please feel free to substitute a quote(s) from your own denominational, interfaith or ecumenical organization's leadership to customize your participation in Change a Light for your own religious tradition. If you send your quote to lawson.jerry@epa.gov we can share it with others in the faith community.)

Interfaith Power and Light Campaign

"Our goal to mobilize a religious response to global warming is greatly enhanced by Change a Light, Change the World. Our purpose is a moral one -to save God's Creation and each other- but saving money makes participation in this Campaign both a pleasure and a blessing."

The Rev. Sally Bingham, Executive Director, The Regeneration Project



CHANGE A LIGHT CHANGE THE WORLD ENERGY STAR®

Products that earn the ENERGY STAR® prevent greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Department of Energy.
www.energystar.gov

Suggested Activities for Congregations

- Incorporate the campaign's call-to-action and purpose into a sermon this fall about environmental stewardship
- Sign up as a Pledge Driver and promote campaign/pledge to individual members – Pledge Drivers set a goal of 100 or more pledges.
- Inspire pledges via bulletin, newsletter, Web site, events & outreach, and track the progress online against your goal
- Consider incorporating a message and/or activity into lessons and the youth group
- Report back to members the difference their commitment is making

ENERGY STAR Qualified Lighting and Our Environment

- Lighting accounts for 20 percent of the average home's electric bill and it's one of the easiest places to save energy. Simple steps, such as changing a light at home, can save on energy bills while also helping to reduce the risks of global climate change. That's because most electricity in our country is still generated by burning fossil fuels, which releases greenhouse gas emissions into our atmosphere. If just half of all American homes used ENERGY STAR qualified products, and took other steps to save energy, the change would prevent the release of billions of pounds of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Energy-efficient lighting products offer warm, bright light with the added benefit of using at least two-thirds less energy and lasting up to 10 times longer than traditional bulbs and fixtures.
- **Change 5 lights.** If every American home replaced their 5 most frequently used lights or the bulbs in them with ones that have earned the ENERGY STAR, each home would save more than \$60 a year in energy costs, and together we'd save about \$6.5 billion each year in energy costs and prevent greenhouse gases equivalent to the emissions from more than 8 million cars.

After You "Change a Light"...More That Congregations and Members Can Do

Visit the ENERGY STAR Congregations network at www.energystar.gov/congregations where you can...

- Join the Network and subscribe to the free, monthly "E-Update for Congregations"
- Read and download pages from the *Putting Energy into Stewardship* guide
- Check out the "Sure Savers" quick tips on saving energy
- Learn how your congregation can apply for our annual awards
- Find all the ENERGY STAR qualified products for the house of worship, members' homes and businesses
- Use the ENERGY STAR qualified products "store finder" and "rebate finder"

Did you know?

If America's more than 300,000 houses of worship reduced energy use by 25%...

- Nearly \$500 million would be saved for congregations' other priorities
- More than 13.5 billion kWh of electricity would be available without the cost of new power plants
- More than 5 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions would be prevented, which equals
 - Planting 1.4 million acres of trees, or
 - Preventing the pollution of about 1 million cars

Make the Pledge today. Help Change a Light, Change the World